

SENATOR MOORE: Five million dollars. But even with that, that is assuming the two existing plants, it may or may not fund production tax, the 1/2 cent checkoff, '94, may or may not fund existing plants, let alone any additional plants we build in Nebraska, is that correct?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Well, Senator, it is hard for me to tell you, or to look into Senator Kristensen's crystal ball and know exactly what is going to be built or what may not be built. Obviously, the production credit is the enticing jewel in the eyes of most of the companies that I know are interested in locating a plant in Nebraska. The issue I think at hand here today, as has been the controversy since we started our debate on 754, is at what level should that production credit be, 10 cents, 5 cents, 20 cents. The Legislature passed last year the bill that provided for 20 cents because that is generally what the other states around us provide. So we are simply recognizing that, and that is actually in the existing law, Senator, I am not changing that.

SENATOR MOORE: I understand that, but 20 cents is the...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR MOORE: One minute or time up. One minute. Well, I guess the concern I have is still I think this Legislature needs to revisit what we did last year in the waning days of the session, and the best way to do it is not to follow the same course and do it again in the waning days of this session. But my concern continues to be that 20-cents production credit is something that, one, it's going to break the Ethanol Fund; two, it is going to...you are going to have to dip deeply into the Highway Trust Fund to pay for it; and, three, the biggest question of all, does it need to be at that level? Does it need to be at that level at the Hastings plant? Will 10 cents do it? Will 10 cents do it for Sutherland? Will 10 cents do it for any of the potential plants that are talking about coming into the State of Nebraska? I guess, Senator Johnson, I know it has a lot of good things in it. It does not change the 20 cents. I guess I will probably draft an amendment to at least attack that problem, which I think is the major root of the problem, that can we spend too much money on production credit.

SPEAKER BAACK: Next speaker...excuse me, we do have an amendment to the amendment.